

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
TRANQUILITY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
October 14, 2024**

The Board of Directors of the Tranquility Resource Conservation District (TRCD) met in the McMullin Area Sustainability Agency Conference Room for a live and in-person meeting and via MS Teams meeting protocols, on Monday, October 14, 2024, at the hour of 3:03 P.M.

Jerry Radinoff, Chair presided, and Steve Haze kept the Minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jerry Radinoff, Stephen Shehadey, Anthony Borges, and Matt Hurley

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Patrick Abercrombie

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Haze – Executive Director and via MS Teams: Jeevan Singh

At 3:03 pm the Chair declared a quorum

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

1. **Draft Agenda Review and Approval:** SS Motioned for approval and MH seconded. Passed unanimously.
2. **Board Minutes:** Draft meeting minutes for August 12th – MH Motioned for approval and SS Seconded. Passed unanimously.
3. **Review of Draft Email Signature Policy:** MH Motioned for approval and SS Seconded. Passed unanimously.
4. **Re-Appointments of Current Board Members:** Shehadey, Borges, and Abercrombie are up for reappointment and should go to Fresno County Board of Supervisors next month.

5. Executive Director's Report:

General: An update of activities associated with the operation was presented.

- **Website Visits:** Over the last six months the average of page visits is 4.2K for a total of 25K.
- **Black Farmers Conference:** Attended with NRCS. A joint Information table was staffed by both Interns, in which they passed out TRCD/CARCD brochures and flyers for the upcoming Local Working Group (LWG) meeting for November 1st.
- **TAP – Technical Assistance Provider Training:** Jeevan and Mikel are participating in the training and have received scholarships
- **Relationship with UC Merced** – Continued to pursue partnership opportunities, SEEN, F3 and other programs. Will be participating in the State of the Science for Land Repurposing on October 28th & 29th.
- **Outreach to other RCDs in Area 9** – Outreaching through TBWP Network and 3rd State of the Basin in which Kings-Excelsior RCD's District Manager and CA Association of RCDs Executive Director will be participating, along with MAGSA on November 21st.
- **CERF/CA Jobs First Regional Committee** – No update
- **SJV Hub** – Will be participating on Sustainable Cotton tour on 10/27
- **Fresno COG – CCAP (Comprehensive Climate Action Plan) Steering Committee** – Officially on Steering Committee for CCAP and awaiting first meeting to be scheduled.

- **Regional Transportation (RTP) Roundtable** – Representing Ag & Natural Resources. No update.
- **Fresno Business Council / SJV Manufacturing Alliance / New California** – Will be attending on 10/30

6. Funding – Grant Development, Submission and/or Active

- **Mobile Irrigation Systems Testing – SWEEP** – Will investigate opportunities
 - **CARCD – California Water Resilience Initiative (CWRI) Private Sector Funding** – Still on standby awaiting what next steps may be.
 - **CARCD 0% Loan** – No action currently. Still considering re-applying.
 - **CARCD/NRCS Block Grant** – Potential small farming operations and habitat restoration. Will try to see if funding of \$22,500 can be used. Initial discussions with the Grant Manager
 - **CARCD ABC and CDFA RCPP Grant proposals** – Approximately \$1.2M for developing and providing Technical Assistance. Still awaiting the outcome.
 - **NRCS – Conservation Cooperative Agreement** – 1st Quarterly Fresno County Local Working Group (LWG) being planned for with District Conservationist and both Interns for November 1st at Kerman Community Center.
 - **Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program** – Consulting support and potential 25% advance. 1st Quarterly Invoice approved on 10/8
 - **Implementation Grant Proposal Development** – Waste/Wastewater Sector – \$302M was not awarded. Only South Coast Air Quality District was awarded. Debriefing held with U.S. EPA and ranked above median score.
7. **SJV Natural Resources Hub** – Alexandria Miranda, CCI Regional Coordinator was not available. Still focused on their need for additional cotton growers participating in their program with Jerry helping. There will be a Rancher to Rancher gathering on 11/27 at the McKenzie Table Mountain Preserve.
8. **NRCS Update** – Mikael spending more time in establishing contracts with growers under EQIP.
9. **Development of district Carbon Management Plan** – based upon CCI and TAP training moving forward on potential. No additional update to report.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at approximately 4:30 pm. The next Regular Meeting on November 11, 2024, 3:00 P.M canceled in honor of Veterans Day. The meeting scheduled for December 9, 2024, is canceled due to the Executive Director’s participation in the CA Associations of RCDs annual conference in Sacramento that week. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on January 13th, 2025, at 3 P.M. in the Boardroom of the Agency or as otherwise directed by the Board. Items on the Agenda may be taken in any order.

- ❖ Action may be taken on any item listed on the Agenda.
- ❖ Writings relating to open session Agenda items that are distributed to members of the Board of Directors, excluding writings that are not public records or are exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Acts, will be available for inspection at the District office at 516 W. Shaw Avenue, Suite 200, Fresno, California, during normal business hours

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990: Under this act, a qualifying person may request that the District provide a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in any public meeting of the Agency. Such assistance includes alternative formats for the agendas and agenda packets used for any public meetings of the District. Requests for assistance shall be made in person, via telephone, or in written form to the TRCD Executive Director at Steve.Haze1@outlook.com / (559) 970-6320. Requests must be received at least 48 hours prior to a scheduled public meeting.